

PRESS RELEASE

The United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit announces the appointments of Paulette J. Delk and George W. Emerson, Jr. as United States Bankruptcy Judges for the Western District of Tennessee at Memphis. Judge Delk assumes a new position created by the passage of P.L. 109-8, and Judge Emerson succeeds retired Bankruptcy Judge William H. Brown. They will serve with Chief Bankruptcy Judge David S. Kennedy and Judge Jennie Latta of Memphis, and Judge G. Harvey Boswell of Jackson. Judges Delk and Emerson were selected by the Court from a field of 26 candidates. They were sworn in on July 1, 2006.

Before her appointment to the bench, Judge Delk was an Associate Professor at the Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law at the University of Memphis having joined the faculty in 1987. Prior to that she was in private practice with a law firm in Chicago and with Heiskell, Donelson in Memphis. Judge Delk received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Fisk University where she was awarded a scholarship to participate in The Experiment in International Living in Switzerland. She received a Masters of Social Work from Atlanta University; and received her J.D. from DePaul University. At DePaul she was the recipient of the American Jurisprudence Award in Conflict of Law. She is the author of several articles on bankruptcy including *Some Highlights of the 2005 Amendments to the Bankruptcy Code: Caution and Concern for Attorneys*, to be published in the National Bar Association Magazine. Judge Delk is a frequent speaker at bankruptcy seminars such as the Tennessee Federal Judicial Conference and the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges. She is a member of the American Board of Certification and has served on its Board of Directors since 2002 and as a member of the Executive Board and Faculty Dean since 2004.

Judge Emerson is well known in the bankruptcy community, not only as a practitioner and Chapter 13 and 7 Trustee, but also as Clerk of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Tennessee from 1983 to 1985. Prior to his service as clerk of the bankruptcy court, he served as law clerk to the late Chief Bankruptcy Judge William B. Leffler of Memphis. Judge Emerson received his Bachelor of Arts degree *cum laude* from the University of Memphis and his law degree from the Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law at the University of Memphis. Since 1985 Judge Emerson has been in private practice and is a partner in the Memphis firm of Stevenson and Emerson. He has served as a Chapter 7 Trustee since 1983, and as a Chapter 13 Trustee since 1988. Since his appointment as Chapter 13 Trustee, he estimates that he has handled 6,000 cases. Judge Emerson is a member of the Memphis and Tennessee Bar Associations. As a member of the Memphis Bar Association, he has served as Chairman of the Bankruptcy Section, as a member of the Board of Directors; and as a member of the Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee.

For further information, contact the Office of the Sixth Circuit Executive at 513/564-7200.